



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Emergency Management

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DISASTER FIELD OFFICE
7401 Timberlake Road
LYNCHBURG, VA 24502
FEMA-1458-DR-VA
Commonwealth Situation Report #11
Friday, April 11, 2003

1. OPERATIONAL PERIOD:

12:00 Noon *Thursday, April 10, 2003*, through 12:00 Noon, *Friday April 11, 2003*. (*New Information is in bold italics*)

2. SITUATION:

A major winter storm struck Virginia beginning February 15 causing major flooding in Southwest Virginia and significant ice and snowfall in the Shenandoah Valley and areas of Northern Virginia. The weather pattern continued to bring warmer temperatures ,melting snow/ice and more heavy rainfall, which combined to cause more local flooding.

Governor Mark R. Warner declared a State of Emergency on February 16, 2003, to speed state agency assistance and resources to localities in need. The counties of Accomack, Augusta, Buchanan, Dickenson, Essex, Fauquier, Frederick, Highland, Loudoun, Madison, Orange, Russell, Shenandoah, Tazewell, Warren, Wise and Wythe and the cities of Norton, Richmond, Salem and Winchester declared emergencies.

The Governor requested the federal Public Assistance program (PA) on February 28th for snow and/or flooding for the following localities: the counties of Albemarle, Arlington, Bland, Buchanan, Clarke, Craig, Culpeper, Dickenson, Essex, Fairfax, Fauquier, Frederick, Grayson, Greene, Highland, Lee, Louisa, Loudoun, Madison, Orange, Prince William, Rappahannock, Russell, Scott, Shenandoah, Stafford, Spotsylvania, Tazewell, Warren, Wise and Wythe and the cities of Alexandria, Charlottesville, Fairfax, Falls Church, Fredericksburg, Manassas, Manassas Park, Norton, Richmond, Salem and Winchester.

The Governor requested the federal Individual Assistance program (IA) on March 4 for these winter storm events in the counties of Augusta, Buchanan, Dickenson, Fauquier, Frederick, Loudoun, Madison,

Montgomery, Prince William, Roanoke including the Town of Vinton, Russell, Shenandoah, Tazewell, Warren, Wise and Wythe and the cities of Norton, Roanoke, Salem and Winchester.

A Major Presidential Disaster Declaration (FEMA-1458-DR-VA) was declared on March 27, 2003. The counties of Buchanan, Dickenson, Montgomery, Russell, Tazewell and Wise and the cities of Norton, Roanoke and Salem were designated for Individual Assistance (IA). Public Assistance (PA) is available for the counties of Arlington, Clarke, Fairfax, Fauquier, Frederick, Highland, Loudoun, Orange and Rappahannock and the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church and Winchester. A Disaster Field Office was opened in Lynchburg on March 31, 2003. The hours of operation are 7:00am – 6:00pm, daily, and closed Sundays. The DFO telephone number is 434-832-8440 and the fax number is 434-832-8544.

The Virginia Farm Service Agency (FSA) has made emergency (EM) physical loss loans available to 10 Virginia counties due to blizzard damages that occurred from Feb 15-Feb 18, 2003. Those counties are Amelia, Augusta, Culpeper, Fauquier, Highland, Page, Prince William, Rappahannock, Rockingham and Shenandoah. In addition to the above counties, 25 other Virginia counties/cities were named as contiguous counties/cities where eligible family farmers may qualify for FSA EM physical loss loan assistance. Those Virginia counties/cities are Albemarle, Bath, Chesterfield, Clarke, Cumberland, Dinwiddie, Fairfax, Frederick, Greene, Harrisonburg City, Loudoun, Madison, Manassas City, Manassas Park City, Nelson, Nottoway, Orange, Powhatan, Prince Edward, Rockbridge, Spotsylvania, Stafford, Staunton City, Warren, and Waynesboro City.

These loans to Virginia counties/cities may be made available to applicants with a qualifying physical loss in the named counties/cities effective 3/18/03 through 11/18/03.

3. WEATHER

Today . Mostly cloudy with a chance of showers. Breezy. Highs in the lower 50s. North winds 15 to 25 mph. Chance of rain 30 percent. Tonight. A slight chance of showers until midnight. Otherwise partly cloudy. Lows 38 to 43. Northwest winds 10 to 20 mph. Chance of rain 20 percent. Saturday. Partly sunny. Highs 65 to 70. Northwest winds 10 to 20 mph.

4. CURRENT PRIORITIES:

- A. Implement strategies to distribute information to affected areas.
- B. Coordinate with FEMA for DRC locations.
- C. Conduct classes for selected DFO staff.
- D. Implement Public assistance strategies.
- E. Establish the Task Force for DFO emergencies.
- F. Obtain state sum-sufficient funding for disaster.

5. ONGOING ACTIONS/ISSUES:

A. Individual Assistance (IA):

STATE CONTACT: Frank Williamson, 434-832-8516

Tele-registrations:
(As of COB 4-10)

Tele-Registrations			
Designated Jurisdictions		Undesignated Jurisdictions	
Buchanan Co.	244	<i>Amherst Co.</i>	1
Dickenson Co.	109	<i>Arlington Co.</i>	1
Montgomery Co.	31	<i>Augusta Co.</i>	1
Russell Co.	13	<i>Bedford Co.</i>	1
Tazewell Co.	20	<i>Botetourt Co.</i>	2
Wise Co.	94	<i>Campbell Co.</i>	1
Norton City	12	<i>Franklin City</i>	2
Roanoke City	76	<i>Henry Co.</i>	1
Salem City	90	<i>Lee Co.</i>	1
	689	<i>Pittsylvania</i>	1
		<i>Prince William</i>	1
		<i>Pulaski Co.</i>	1
		<i>Roanoke Co.</i>	24
			38

Inspection Services:
(As of COB 4-9)

FEMA contracted Housing Inspectors are dispatched to the damage address to assess damages for eligible registrations.

<i>Inspections Issued, to date</i>	459
<i>Inspections Returned to FEMA</i>	419
<i>Inspections Outstanding</i>	44
<i>Inspectors in the Field</i>	7
<i>Turnaround Time</i>	1.04

Individuals and Households Program (IHP) Overview:
(As of COB Apr 10)

IHP is the premier federal grant program for Individual Assistance administered by FEMA and the Commonwealth. It is comprised of two components, Housing Assistance and Other Needs Assistance. The maximum grant that can be awarded is \$25,000.00 shared between the programs two components on a first come first served basis. Some ONA grant categories are SBA Ineligible Dependent. Processing of referred applications must await the allocation of the estimated state share of funding.

<i>Eligibility Rate</i>	70%
<i>Registrations Referred</i>	591
<i>Registrations Approved</i>	357
<i>Registrations Ineligible</i>	135

<i>Registrations Withdrawn</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>Registrations Pending</i>	<i>84</i>
<i>Payments Approved</i>	<i>\$509,872.00</i>
<i>Payments Disbursed</i>	<i>\$454,407.00</i>

Housing Assistance (HA): 100% Federally funded grants

A \$5,000.00 limit exists on grants for “housing repairs”.

<i>Eligibility Rate</i>	<i>70%</i>
<i>Amount Approved</i>	<i>\$509,872.00</i>
<i>Amount Disbursed</i>	<i>\$454,407.00</i>
<i>Referrals</i>	<i>591</i>
<i>Approved</i>	<i>357</i>
<i>Ineligible</i>	<i>135</i>
<i>Withdrawn</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>Pending HA Categories</i>	<i>84</i>

Small Business Administration: 100% Federally funded low interest loans

<i>Home Applications Issued</i>	<i>258</i>
<i>Business Applications Issued</i>	<i>22</i>
<i>Total Applications Issued</i>	<i>240</i>
<i>Total Applications Approved</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Total Applications Pending</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Total Amount Approved</i>	<i>134,700.00</i>

Other Needs Assistance (ONA): 75% Federal and 25% State funded Grants

<i>Eligibility Rate</i>	<i>0%</i>
<i>Amount Approved</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>
<i>Amount Disapproved</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>
<i>Referrals</i>	<i>251</i>
<i>Approved</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Ineligible</i>	<i>91</i>
<i>Withdrawn</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Pending ONA Categories</i>	<i>157</i>

Sanctioned Communities:

Sanctioned communities are areas that are not enforcing flood plain management ordinances set forth by FEMA and the National Flood Insurance Program, meaning community residents cannot purchase flood insurance. The town of Clintwood in Dickenson County is such a community.

Dwellings located in a sanctioned community and in a 100 year flood plain or a high hazard area such as a river front generally may not be considered for:

- *Housing Assistance (IHP)*
- *Other Needs Assistance (IHP)*
- *SBA Assistance with home repair or personal property losses which are covered by the National Flood Insurance Program.*

Dwellings located in a sanctioned community and in a 100 year flood plain or high hazard area such as a river front generally may be considered for:

- *FEMA Rental Assistance where damages make the dwelling unlivable.*
- *FEMA Home Repair funds for flood losses not covered by NFIP where those repairs will make the home livable.*
- *ONA or SBA assistance with home repair or personal property losses that are not covered by NFIP*
- *ONA assistance for Medical, Dental, Funeral and “Other” expenses/losses.*

Dwellings located in a sanctioned community but not in a 100 year flood plain or a high hazard area such as a river front may be considered for assistance without regard to the sanctioned status.

Disaster Related Deaths Reported:

(As of COB 4-10)

Jurisdictions		Initial Reports		Validated Reports	
		No. of Fatalities	Source	No. of Fatalities	Source
1	Augusta Co.	1	News	1	EM Coord
2	Fauquier Co.	1	EM Coordinator	Pending	
3	Frederick Co.	1	Times Dispatch	1	EM Coord
4	Gloucester Co.	1	Daily Press	1	EM Coord
5	Hanover Co.	1	VDEM PA	Pending	
6	Loudoun Co.	1	Times Dispatch	3	EM Coord
7	Montgomery Co.	1	Times Dispatch	1	EM Coord
8	New Kent Co.	1	Times Dispatch	1	Cnty Relations
9	Pulaski Co.	1	VDEM PA	1	*EM Coord
10	Roanoke Co.	1	Local SitRep	1	EM Coord
11	Shenandoah Co.	1	Washington Post	2	EM Coord
12	Spotsylvania Co.	1	EM Coord	1	EM Coord
13	Warren Co.	2	EM Coord/News	2	EM Coord

* *Ineligible – Foreign Diplomatic Status*

Disaster Recovery Centers (DRC):

The Virginia Department of Social Services has agreed to supply state DRC Managers for the following DRCs:

Reception Report

DRCs	Salem City	Buchanan Co	Wise Co	Dickenson
Apr 5	4	-	Opens Apr 14 th -	<i>Opens Apr 21st</i>
Apr 6	9	-	-	-
Apr 7	14	-	-	-
Apr 8	13	17	-	-
Apr 9	16	14	-	-
<i>Apr 10</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>5</i>	-	-
Total	<i>69</i>	<i>36</i>	-	-

Disaster Recovery Centers (DRC) are open at the Regional Office of the Virginia Department of Forestry, 210 Riverland Drive, Salem, Virginia 24153(Phone: (540) 387-5461 Fax: (540) 387-5462, and at the Buchanan County Courthouse, Main Street, Grundy, Virginia 24614(Phone: (276) 935-6567. A DRC to serve Wise County is scheduled to open on Monday, April 14th, at 5701 Industrial Park Road in the town of Wise and one to serve Dickerson County is tentatively scheduled to open Monday, April 21st, at fire station in the town of Clintwood. Hours of operation will be 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., seven days a week.

Preliminary Damage Assessments (PDA):

The State Fire Marshall's Office assisted with the PDAs for Individual Assistance. Training was completed on April 6, 2003. Four fire marshals attended.

PDA teams are in the field now and we expect all PDA's to be completed by COB Friday, April 11, 2003.

Local Disaster Recovery Task Forces:

This week, the Coordinator of the State Disaster Recovery Task Force, Department of Housing and Community Development will be meeting with established LDRTFs within the declared areas as well as meeting with localities interested in establishing a LDRTF.

Date	Localities	Activity	Result
Monday, 4/7	Roanoke City, Roanoke Co., Salem City and Town of Vinton	Visit with existing Local & Regional DRTFs	Productive meeting with Asst to the City Manager of Roanoke City, who will serve as chairperson of the Regional DRFT
Tuesday, 4/8	Russell Co.	Visit with existing LDRTF	Met with the chairperson of the LDRTF and participated in a conf. call with the VaVOAD.
Wednesday, 4/9	Washington Co.	Kick off meeting to establish new LDRTF	Conducted a kick off meeting in Washington County. Organization documents prepared and Chairperson, Secretary and PIO identified. Provided

			Congressman Boucher's office with information concerning LDRTF organization and purpose.
Thursday, 4/10	Wise Co.	Visit to begin establishment of new LDRTF	Met with County Officials and set the kick off meeting for May, date to be determined.
Friday, 4/11	Buchanan Co. and Tazewell Co.	Visit with existing LDRTFs	
Saturday, 4/12	DFO	VaVOAD Conference Call	

B. Public Assistance (PA):

STATE CONTACT: Robert Anderson, 434-832-8506

- Requesting declaration add-on for snow emergency work only the following jurisdictions
 - Prince William County
 - Shenandoah County
 - Warren County
 - City of Manassas
 - City of Manassas Park
- Preparing cost documentation for PDA's in areas affected by Feb. flooding.
- ***Received one request for Public Assistance from Fairfax Public Schools.***
- Joint FEMA/Commonwealth kick-off meetings on April 7, 2003 for Fauquier County, City of Winchester, Winchester Regional Airport Authority, Town of Warrenton, Town of Orange, and Town of Gordonsville were successful and the locals are completing required data collection information for processing of project worksheets.
- Received one Request for Public Assistance from a potential applicant, Marymount College of Virginia – PNP – reviewing their eligibility.
- Two project worksheets completed and forwarded to Hyattsville, MD for processing.
- Joint FEMA/Commonwealth kick-off meetings on April 7, 2003 for Fauquier County, City of Winchester, Winchester Regional Airport Authority, Town of Warrenton, Town of Orange, and Town of Gordonsville ***were successful and the locals are completing required data collection information for processing of project worksheets.***
- ***PDA's are scheduled for flooded areas – April 9-11. Three reservists to assist the Commonwealth with four FEMA/Commonwealth teams.***

C. Community Relations (CR):

STATE CONTACT: Danny Hall, 434-832-8507

- FEMA/State teams have been deployed to the declared localities and briefed on Community Relations activity for the field.
- Field Officers are distributing the FEMA telephone registration 1-800-621-FEMA.
- Field Officers are distributing the FEMA DRC location flyer in the Roanoke Valley and the Buchanan County/Grundy area.
- Field Officers are continuing to assess the unmet needs/special needs in their assigned jurisdictions.

- *Community Relations is validating reported fatalities during the declared disaster event. Upon receipt of the counties' designation, Field Officers will meet with the victims' families.*

D. Hazard Mitigation (HM):

STATE CONTACT: Richard Dameron, 434-832-8475

- Agenda for April 17th meeting with City of Roanoke, Roanoke County, and Cities of Salem and Vinton is completed.
- Continuing to edit the Public Assistance Environmental Consideration Document for DR 1458VA
- Developing an outline for environmental/historic resources coordinating agency scoping meeting.
- A floodplain management workshop for local officials, consultants, and others will be held on May 6, 2003, at the Eastern Mennonite Retirement Center in Harrisonburg, VA. The Central Shenandoah Project Impact, the VA Association of Floodplain Managers, and the Department of Conservation & Recreation will sponsor the workshop. The point of contact for registration information is Jackie Miller at 804-786-0237.
- As part of their Emergency Watershed Program, NCRS is conducting Damage Survey Reports visits in Wise, Russell, and Buchanan Counties. Mitigation has requested to be updated on the number of counties, the number of sites and estimated costs of the EWP work.
- *Members of HM staff will attend a meeting at Congressman Boucher's office in Abingdon to discuss the Hurley HMPG Project. FEMA will also attend. Meeting date and time to be determined as coordinated with Legislative Liaison.*

E. Public Affairs Office (PAO):

STATE CONTACT: Dawn Eischen, 434-832-8508

- Sent out news release announcing the April 14 opening of the Disaster Recovery Center in Wise County.
- Drafted flier for Community Relations announcing Disaster Recovery Center opening in Wise County April 14. Also sent flier to field public information officers (PIOs) to distribute to local citizens, businesses and media.
- Continue work on the production of a comprehensive news-media contact list, including compiling e-mail addresses of statewide media contacts.
- *Coordinated with Virginia Employment Commission on disaster unemployment release (pending activation).*
- *Field PIOs continued to contact news media in the declared area; distributed news releases and provided information on the recovery effort, emphasizing the amount of housing assistance provided to date and the Disaster Recovery Centers in Salem, Grundy and Wise.*
- *The key messages are: Call to register for assistance — don't determine your own eligibility; Visit the Disaster Recovery Center; and Disaster assistance doesn't affect other government programs.*

F. Legislative Liaison:

STATE CONTACT: Marge Atkins, 434-832-8486

- *Distributed Wise County press release and State Sitrep #9 to senators/delegates.*
- *Assisted Community Relations in canvassing State colleges in declared areas to determine if cost were incurred during snow emergency, which may qualify for public assistance.*
- *Completed group distribution database of State senators/delegates in declared area.*

G. Information and Planning:

STATE CONTACT: Lew Wertz, 434-832-8538

- Continuing to refine the Situation Report input and distribution procedures.

H. Deputy State Coordinating Officer:

STATE CONTACT: Harry Colestock, 434-832-8505

- Actions to review damage assessments are continuing in several jurisdictions and designations of eligibility for federal assistance should be known in the next several days.
- With the signing of FEMA-Commonwealth Agreement, federal funds are being made for payment of those programs in which there is a federal-state cost share.

Michael M. Cline, SCO

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April 11, 2003